GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:7
ANSWERED ON:24.02.2000
SURPLUS FOODGRAINS IN F.C.I. GODOWNS
ARUN KUMAR;NAWAL KISHORE RAI

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the estimated quantum of surplus wheat and rice to be available in the Government godowns by the end of March, 2000;

(b) whether the economic burden on the Government has increased due to the said surplus storage of foodgrains; (

(c) if so, the additional economic burden estimated on this account during the financial year 1999-2000; and

(d) the reasons for storage of such a huge quantum of foodgrains and the measures being taken to tackle this situation ?

Answer

MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION

(SHRI SHANTA KUMAR)

(a),(b),(c) & (d) : A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a),(b),(c) & (d) OF STARRED QUESTION NO. 7 FOR ANSWER IN THE SABHA ON 24-2-2000.

(a) The quantum of surplus wheat and rice estimated to be available in the Government godowns/FCI at the end of March, 2000 is likely to be 93.14 lakh tonnes and 38.71 lakh tonnes respectively.

(b) & (c) : The additional monetary burden on account of excess stocks during 1999-2000 is estimated at Rs.843 crores approximately.

(d) In the operation of the Minimum Support Price (MSP) mechanism, foodgrians of Fair Average Quality (FAQ) offered by farmers for sale have to be purchased to ensure that there is no distress sale by them and they are assured of at least the Government announced Minimum Support Price (MSP).This being the nature and objective of the scheme, it is not possible to control the quantum of procurement.